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BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the Editor-in-Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

A Monograph on Plebiscites—With a collection of official documents by Sarah Wambaugh. Prepared under the supervision of John Brown Scott, Director of International Law of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. New York. Oxford University Press, 35 West 32nd Street. London. Toronto. Melbourne & Bombay. 1920.

The world owes a great deal to the Carnegie Foundations, and whilst scoffers are inclined to belittle the work of International Peace, men who realize how long it takes any good movement to succeed, look with hope and admiration to the gradual growth of the sentiment aroused by the work of this great Foundation.

The future historian will owe a debt of gratitude to the magnificent publications issued under the auspices of this Foundation, and the student of international affairs will welcome the various volumes that come from the Oxford press under its direction. We have several to review and hope to do so at a later date. But we select for our present purposes this work of Miss Wambaugh's, not only for its collection of valuable documents on the subject of Plebiscites, but for the very interesting and well-written historical summary of the theory and practice of this method of national self-determination, together with short sketches of the Plebiscites of the French Revolution—of the period of 1848-'70 and 1871-1914, accompanied by maps. Miss Wambaugh had not only made her subject interesting, but writes a clear, vigorous style, interpreting many of the numerous problems presented, in a manner which commands at once our admiration and interest.

The subject treated is one which looms largely today on the horizon of the world and we do not know of any other volume which can furnish the information needed to thoroughly understand the subject from a historical standpoint, as this work does. We took it up in the reviewer's usual superficial manner of reading a work of this character, but we did not lay it down after a careless glance at its pages. On the contrary we read the one hundred and sixty-nine pages of Miss Wambaugh's introduction to the documents with "an appetite which grew with the *'reading.'*" We cannot commend too highly to those who want to be informed on this subject (and there ought to be many such) this "introduction," which is worthy of a better name. It will enlighten and surprise those of us who never until President Wilson made us acquainted with the term "self-determination," knew of the extent to which it had been practiced and the wonderful history connected with it. There is no longer any excuse for ignorance on the subject, with this volume before us.